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INFORMATION REPORT
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COUNTRY Albania

CD NC

SUBJECT Defense Construction, Power Plants and Equipment, Mines, Factories, Prisons and Hospitals

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Gjinoester - February 1951.

1. A Soviet general and a colonel are organizing the fortification of the Gjinokaster zone.
2. Four small forts situated in the mountains of Libohove are at a distance of about 100 meters from each other. Construction is continuing.
3. Coastal and anti-aircraft batteries in unknown numbers are emplaced along the coast from Vlone to Sarande.
4. Defensive fortifications, in the form of bunkers fortified with cannons and machineguns, are being constructed in the zones of Kakavi and Konispol near the Greek frontier.

Vlone - February 1951

5. A factory for threshing rice is in an advanced stage of construction between the port area and the city. Three factories have already been built. A Soviet engineer is directing the work.
6. In the first part of January 1951, work was commenced on the construction of a cement factory on the former civil aviation field. Machinery of Soviet manufacture has already arrived in Durres for this factory.
7. Electric current is available in Vlone from 0700 to 2400 hours.

Selenite Mine, Vlone - February 1951.

8. The power plant of the Selenice mine has the following equipment:

- a. One Mannheim, 2-cylinder gasoline motor, 60 HP, 500 R.P.M. The motor is functioning, but it is in a bad condition.
- b. One Brown-Boveri alternating current generator, powered by the Mannheim motor. It is in excellent condition.

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- e. A second Mannheim motor, disassembled and being repaired, with a second Brown-Boveri generator. It is in a poor condition.
- f. One gasoline motor of British manufacture, 6 cylinders, 100 HP, 1500 R.P.M. This motor, in very bad condition, is used only for a few hours at a time in case of emergency. It is connected co-axially with a British alternating current 75 Kw. generator.
- e. One General Motors gasoline, two-cycle, 100 HP, 6-cylinder, valve-in-head engine, 1500 R.P.M. This engine at present has a broken head. An American alternating current generator, of 75 Kw. is connected to it co-axially.
- f. One Deutz gasoline motor, 8 cylinders, 300 HP, 750 R.P.M., which arrived recently from Germany via Trieste, under the reparations agreement. Two more of these motors also arrived, one of which is at Pathos and the other at Kucove. The condition of the motors is bad because the connecting-rod bearings are of a poor quality metal. To the Deutz motor in Vlone is connected co-axially a Krokemberg alternating current generator of 300 Amperes capacity. The generator is in the worst possible condition because the rotor coils have burned out. Another similar generator is unusable because it is completely burned out.
- g. Other mine equipment includes the following:
 - a. Six 45 Kw. compressors, of Soviet manufacture, in excellent condition. Many similar compressors have arrived in Albania, but their efficiency is low because of the bad quality of the material of which they are made. Each compressor is powered by a 45 Kw. motor, 220-380 volts, 900 R.P.M.
 - b. A water pump, of Soviet manufacture and great power. This has not yet been installed.
 - c. Three centrifugal pumps, with motors of 14 HP. These are of Czechoslovakian manufacture, new, and in excellent working condition.
 - d. A sounding apparatus of Soviet manufacture which has not yet been installed.
 - e. A lathe, German, received as reparations.
 - f. Two lathes, Italian, with small motors which are in good condition.
 - g. Two Motomocanica sounding apparatuses, Italian, which are not functioning at present.
 - h. A trip-hammer, air type, Italian, which is in working order.
 - i. Forty smelting furnaces which are in working order.
 - j. Ten gasoline locomotives, 10 to 12 HP, of different types, four of which are Czechoslovakian. Five of them are at present used for the Decauville railway in the mine.
 - k. Twelve Steam locomotives, narrow gauge, of which four are in good condition and in use (of these four, three are Polish). They burn residue from the mine.
 - l. A traction-engine is expected from Czechoslovakia (there are already four similar ones at Kucove) which will be steam-powered, 300 HP, double expansion. It will serve to furnish electrical energy when coupled to a 270/300 Kw. alternating current generator.
 - m. Forty 3-ton Decauville cars. These are in working order but the condition of the wheels, axles, and ball bearings is poor.

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- n. A considerable quantity of tracks which arrived recently from Poland are stored in the yards of the port.
- o. A Fiat 334 truck which is in fairly good condition.
- p. A Fiat 666 truck which is in good condition because it was recently repaired with spare parts brought from Italy, via Trieste, by Albanian motor-sailboats.
- q. A small Fiat 1100 truck which is in fairly good condition.
- r. A ZIS truck which is in good condition.
- s. An American Chevrolet truck which is in fairly good condition.

10. At present the Selenice mine has 12 extraction tunnels, some of which are connecting. There are also ten air wells and sounding wells. The daily average extraction amounts to about 144 tons. Almost all the bitumen extracted is exported in sections of 25 kilos each to the USSR and Czechoslovakia. Near the mine there have recently been constructed 20 small one-story brick dwellings for the mine workers who total about 1000.

11. Work shifts at the mine and power plant are as follows:

0700 to 1500 hours
 1500 to 2300 hours
 2300 to 0700 hours

12. The Soviet engineers in charge plan to mechanize and electrify the mine in order to increase production to the utmost. They intend to construct a large electric high-tension power station which will also serve the mine at Resulaj, three kilometers from Selenice. This station will have four generators of 300 Kw. each, and will be connected with Resulaj by power lines above ground.

Resulaj mine.

13. At the Resulaj mine, the effort is principally concentrated on sounding, and very little extraction is done. There are only 200 workers. The independent power plant here uses a 30 HP, two-cycle, Lovo-Parisin motor. This is to be substituted (perhaps already has been) by a Deutz 4-cycle motor of 25 HP. Additional equipment includes a 15 Kw. alternating current generator, a 15 Kw. dynamo, and an air compressor run by a gasoline motor.

Shkoder - up to March 1951.

14. The central power plant is located on the premises of the former Italian power station, on Soviet premises (sic). Current is furnished from 0700 to 2400 hours. Military headquarters are exempted from the limitations of this schedule.

15. The Communist Party head for the city, who is also mayor, is Camil Govoci.

16. The city is connected with Tirana by buses of Czechoslovakian manufacture, which require four to five hours for the journey one way, and operate on the following schedule:

- a. Departures from Shkoder at 0900 and 1200 hours.
- b. Departures from Tirana at 0900 and 1200 hours.

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[REDACTED]

17. There are three prisons in the city:

- a. A prison where political prisoners are held to await trial. This is located at the end of the former Via Mussolini, and was once used by the Gestapo.
- b. A prison occupied by about 200 common criminals, located in the former Jesuit building in Kruga Sumaj.
- c. A third prison, in what was formerly the Italian prison, where about 1000 "enemies of the people" are at present held.

18. The following foodstuffs are available on the ration:

- a. Oil - 200 grams a month.
- b. Sugar - 250 grams a month.
- c. Soap - 150 grams a month.
- d. Salt - 500 grams a month.
- e. Bread - 400 grams a day.
- f. Glutinized wheat - 700 grams a month
- g. Beans - 200 grams a month.

19. Hospitals:

- a. The Civil Hospital is located in the former Italian industrial school, on Soviet premises (sic). The staff consists of Albanian doctors.
- b. The tuberculosis sanatorium is situated in a building once occupied by Italian officers, near the civil hospital.
- c. The tuberculosis sanatorium where the less serious cases are held is in the civil hospital.
- d. An institute of preventive medicine for children is located in a building belonging to Ali Kamita, located near the Prefecture.

20. Radio Shkoder is located on Soviet premises (sic).

21. The soap factory, formerly owned by Tef Pogu, is continuing production with him as technical director. Its production does not meet local needs.

22. The Shkoder cement factory is located on the Tirana road, bordering the lake. It employs three hundred workers. The major part of its production is sent to Durres for export.

25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. As a technical mining term "sounding" refers to the testing of a structure for safety or the determination of the depth of water, however, from the context in this report it would appear that it is being used loosely here in the sense of exploring for minerals.

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